

Bryan

Band

Musician's Manual 2021-2022

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COVID 19 – Many of the expectations, activities, and guidelines outlined in this manual might need to be adapted, modified, and adjusted this year to comply with public health conditions and evolving school procedures. However, the spirit and intent of creating a respectful learning environment, conducive to music making opportunities for all students, should remain the primary focal point and lens through which this information is interpreted and applied.

Goals

As a musician in the Bryan Band, you will:

- Learn musical styles and concepts through listening and performance
- Learn and practice performance skills on your instrument
- Learn to read music notation and identify basic elements of music composition
- Learn to apply musical concepts and make style judgments
- Perform music of different styles
- Learn to collaborate with other musicians

Concert Band Essential Skills

The Bryan Concert Bands rehearse and perform music written at a grade 2- 4 level of technical difficulty. Students will learn better and enjoy band more if they practice and come to band prepared with the following essential skills:

- Demonstrate correct, effective instrument care and maintenance
- Demonstrate correct playing position, posture, and breathing
- Demonstrate a pleasant, characteristic tone quality
- Demonstrate the ability to read a fingering chart for your instrument
- Accurately perform one-octave concert-pitch Bb, Eb, Ab, and F major and Bb chromatic scales
- Accurately perform the following basic rhythms while maintaining a steady beat:
Notes/Rests: Whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, dotted quarter, dotted eighth, triplet
- Demonstrate the ability to perform music in 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/8, and cut time
- Brass and Woodwinds demonstrate the ability to articulate with legato tongue, staccato tongue, and slurs
- Percussionists demonstrate suitable proficiency on both mallet instruments and snare drum

Bryan Band Expectations

- Be respectful and kind to other students, faculty, and property
- Attend rehearsals and technique classes (except in cases of absence from school)
- Arrive to band classes on time and prepared with your instrument, accessories, and music
- Demonstrate excellent rehearsal and concert behavior as performers and audience members
- Practice your music at home regularly and come to rehearsals and performances prepared
- Arrive at concerts on time, ready to perform, in appropriate concert attire
- Respectfully follow instructions given to you by music instructors
- Ask for help if you do not understand something, encourage others, and keep a positive attitude!

Assessment

Band students will be assessed on the following concepts and skills:

Music Elements

- Identifying and explaining correct note names, key signatures, and fingerings
- Identifying and explaining correct meter, note values, and tempo
- Identifying and explaining correct stickings, articulation, and expressive markings

Instrumental Technique

- Performing with a pleasing tone quality, characteristic of the instrument
- Performing accurate notes, key signatures, and fingerings
- Performing accurate rhythms at an appropriate tempo
- Performing with appropriate posture and playing position
- Performing accurate articulations

Musicianship

- Identifying, explaining, and performing appropriate dynamics and phrasing
- Identifying, explaining, and performing in the appropriate musical style
- Balancing and blending with the section and ensemble

Exceeds

Student consistently demonstrates the skill or understanding at a level exceeding the expectation of the reporting standard.

Proficient:

Student consistently demonstrates mastery and independence of the reporting standard.

Approaching:

Student consistently demonstrates that they are approaching the reporting standard, showing occasional independence or potential for independence toward meeting the standard.

Beginning:

Student demonstrates that they are working toward readiness for the trimester reporting standard without independence.

Class Rules

1. Stay quiet when someone is on the podium. Play instrument and talk only when directed.
2. Arrive on time, prepared, with all materials.
3. Keep sticks, hands, feet, etc. to self

Rehearsal Expectations

- Talk only when the conductor has stepped off of the podium and is not rehearsing the ensemble.
- During class discussions, only ONE person may talk at a time. Raise your hand and wait to be called upon. Be respectful of the person who is talking.
- During rehearsal, ask questions that relate directly to the music being rehearsed. Ask non-music questions before or after rehearsal unless there is an emergency.
- Sit in a correct playing position when playing or resting in the middle of a piece. You may sit back in your chair when the conductor is working with another section for more than a few minutes.
- Have your instrument ready to play at least two measures before an entrance.
- Stop and listen immediately when the conductor gestures for the ensemble to stop playing.
- Use the restroom before or after rehearsal unless you have an emergency or urgent need.
- Show a positive attitude and effort!

Performance Expectations

- Arrive on time, dressed appropriately in concert attire.
- Listen attentively to groups that perform at the same concert. Give applause when appropriate.
- Refrain from talking, texting, or other distracting behavior while others are performing. All phones must be turned off and put away during the performance.
- Help move equipment and other related tasks

Attendance

- In addition to e-block classes, all band students are required to attend a weekly small-group pull-out instrument technique class during the school day. Technique class times rotate weekly.
- Students and parents should communicate with the band director about anticipated schedule conflicts ahead of time when possible.

Solo Requirement- Solo and Ensemble Festival

Each year, as part of instrumental technique classes, all 6-8th grade concert band students are required to prepare and perform a solo on their instrument. Practicing and performing a solo is an important musical activity that helps students develop independence and individual musicianship on their instruments. The solo unit will begin in early January and conclude with the District 205 Solo and Ensemble Festival on Saturday, February 26, 2022.

The band director will assist students with selecting an appropriate solo. Students who are currently taking private lessons may play a solo selected by their (professional-adult) teacher. Solos must be in the art music/classical/educational genre. Movie themes, pop music, jazz play along books, etc are not suitable for this activity. Each student will be required to purchase/own an original published copy of the solo they perform. The solo may be published as an individual piece of sheet music or as part of a collection in a book.

All students are encouraged to perform their solo at the District 205 Solo and Ensemble Festival where they will have the opportunity to receive feedback from an experienced adjudicator. Students who perform at the festival are also strongly encouraged to obtain the services of a professional piano accompanist. The interplay between an accompanist and instrumental soloist is an important and exciting component of the chamber music learning experience. Registration information, a sign-up form, and a list of local piano accompanists will be distributed to students in January.

Students who are unable to perform at the solo and ensemble festival will perform their solo at school during a rehearsal or technique class.

In addition to their solos, students have the opportunity to perform in a small ensemble for the festival. Students who wish to do this should see a director or private teacher for assistance in selecting music.

*****This event may be reformatted to comply with COVID 19 conditions*****

School-Owned Instruments and Supplies

School-Owned Instruments

Students issued school-owned instruments (or percussionists who share them) are expected to take care of them while in their use. School fees cover normal wear and tear. However, any repair for damage beyond normal wear and tear, caused by carelessness, neglect, or vandalism is the responsibility of the student.

Student-Owned Instruments, Home Practice, and Private Lessons

All band students are expected to bring their instruments home regularly to practice. Student-owned instruments should have a name tag and maintained in playable condition.

Frequent 20/30-minute practice sessions will yield better results than infrequent, longer practice sessions. The most difficult part of home practice is getting the instrument out of the case. Once the instrument is out and you start to play, the chances of you improving increase exponentially!

In addition to being in band, students are encouraged to take private instrument lessons with a highly-qualified teacher if possible. A combination of ensemble rehearsals, small-group practice, and individual private lessons is the best way to achieve the highest level of learning and enjoyment from playing an instrument.

Concert Band Supply List

All students need at School:

- Black 1-inch 3-ring binder with a pencil pouch for storing sheet music
- Method book(s)
- Pencil
- Chromebook
- Special Band PPE:
 - Woodwind and Brass – Bell cover and players mask
 - Percussion – regular mask

All students need at home:

- Music stand
- Distraction-free place and time to practice regularly
- Chromebook or other device

Percussion Students

- Set of bells, marimba or other small mallet instrument (for practice at home)
- Snare drum and/or snare practice pad (for practice at home)
- Stick and Mallet bag **at school** with the following
 1. Vic Firth SD-I Snare Drum Sticks (or equivalent)
 2. Plastic or hard rubber bell/ xylophone mallets
 3. Medium yarn marimba mallets
(Mike Balter Ensemble series BB#13 or equivalent recommended)
 4. Vic Firth T1 General Timpani Mallets or equivalent)

Brass Students

- Instrument with working tuning slides and mouthpiece
- B.E.R.P. for buzzing exercises (at home)
- Valve Oil and Tuning Slide Grease
- Mask and Bell Cover

Woodwind Students

- Instrument with working keys, levers, and corks
- *Box of reeds (saxophone and clarinet)
- Swab
- Mask and Bell Cover
- Small electronic tuner (oboe)

Concert Band Quick-Info Sheet 2021-2022

Director:	Mr. Brian Berg Bberg@elmhurst205.org 630-617-2350 ext. 3025
Membership:	All students who play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument and who can reasonably demonstrate (or are actively working to learn) the <i>Concert Band Essential Skills</i> are eligible to participate
Rehearsal Times:	7 th and 8 th Grade Students = E Block 1 6 th Grade Students = E Block 3 Combined = Tuesday Morning 7:30 – 8:15*** ***Schedule of small groups will be distributed to students once it is created. Full 6-8 combined rehearsals will resume once it is considered safe to do so.***
Technique Classes:	Monday – Friday during the school day (Schedule will be distributed to students once it is created)
Required Materials for School:	Instrument and accessories (with a name tag on your case!) Music binder with pencil bag (provided by student) with sheet music (provided by school) Method Book (Each student will need to purchase/ own their own copies) B.E.R.P. (Brass students) *** Use at home due to Covid-19*** Stick Bag with sticks and mallets (Percussion students only) Small bottle of hand sanitizer Pencil
Required Materials at Home:	Music stand, place to practice, metronome
Optional/ Strongly Encouraged:	Private instruction
Method Books:	<i>Essential Elements for Band Book 1 and 2</i> By Tim Lautzenheiser et al. Hal Leonard Publications 6th grade: Need book 1 and 2 7th/8th grade = Need book 2 only
Concert Attire:	Evening: Black shoes, socks, pants with a White long-sleeve button dress shirt Daytime: Black shoes, socks, pants with Bryan Music Department T-shirt
Performances:***	All performances are at Bryan Middle School except for the Band Festival at York and the Memorial Day parade which is in downtown Elmhurst.
Fall Evening Concert:	Wednesday, November 17, 2021 7:00 p.m. (6:30 arrival for musicians)
Fall Morning Concert:	Friday, November 19, 2021 8:30 a.m.
Band Festival at York:	Thursday, March 10, 2022 7:30p.m. (6:15 arrival for musicians)
Solo and Ensemble Festival:	Saturday, February 26, 2022 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Spring Evening Concert:	Tuesday, April 26, 2022 7:00 p.m. (6:30 arrival for musicians)
Spring Band Tour:	Friday, April 22, 2022 8:30 – 1:00 p.m.
Spring Morning Concert:	Friday, May 13, 2022 8:30 a.m.
Memorial Day Parade:	Monday, May 30, 2022 9:00 a.m. (Corner of Addison and Third)

*** All performances are tentative/subject to change due to COVID-19***